Mr. Hawes said, unless the noble lord was prepared to say that the Bill would be defeated if the report were not brought up to-morrow, he must persevere and press for delay.

The Earl of Lincoln said, unless he could get the Bill up to the House of Lords on Monday, he knew that strong opposition would be made to it on account of the period of the session, and an attempt would be made to defeat the Bill on that ground.

Mr. Humphery said, this Bill was a most pernicious Bill, and he would not allow it to pass unless the report were to be brought up on Monday, to give time for the amendments to be read. It was now 10 o'clock at night, and the idea of sitting at 12 o'clock next day to pass the Bill! There would hardly be a house. There were then, out of 658 members, only 15 present at the discussion of the Bill. He was very sorry hon. gentlemen were kept waiting for their dinners, but dinner was of no consequence to him. (Laughter.) He should divide the house on the question that the report be received on Monday. It was only fair.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the Bill had been fully considered, and he hoped the hon. member would withdraw his opposition to its further progress next day.

Mr. Humphery.—No. I will divide the house.

The Earl of Lincoln said, in the present state of the house, that would adjourn the house. The hon. member had paid very little attention to the Bill, and knew nothing about it.

Mr. Humphery.—I beg your pardon.

The Earl of Lincoln would tell the hon. member, that he would not consent to his proposal. The hon. member had not the power which he supposed he had. He should now the house to be counted out, and the question would come on as a dropped order next day.

Mr. Humphery said he had paid great attention to the Bill, and considered it to be an pernicious Bill. He could not be in that house from 12 o'clock in the day till 12 o'clock at night. He should certainly count it the House.

The Earl of Lincoln said, the hon. member should have the extreme satisfaction of taking the unfair advantage which he had done, and he (the Earl of Lincoln) would fix the report for 12 o'clock on Friday.

Mr. Humphery did not think it fair to be charged by a member of the government with taking an unfair advantage. If he had had a large majority with him, and the noble lord had been opposed to the Bill, would not the noble lord have taken the same advantage? The Bill ought to be circulated, free of cost, like a newspaper (laughter), and fully discussed. Why had not the noble lord all the government down to support him? If the noble lord's supporters were present, and hon. members on his (Mr. Humphery's) side of the house were where they ought to be, would the noble lord charge him with taking an unfair advantage?

The Earl of Lincoln.—No.

Mr. Humphery.—Then why do you now?

The Earl of Lincoln.—Because you stand alone.

Mr. Humphery.—Am I to be blamed for that?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave the hon. member great credit for standing alone. (Laughter.)

The report was then ordered to be received on Friday, at 12 o'clock.

DAMAGE BY FIRE METROPOLIS (NO. 2) BILL.

The Earl of Lincoln said, he intended to abandon this Bill for the present year in consequence of the representation of the vestries of parishes. Although they did not disapprove of the regulations in the Bill, and were prepared to admit that considerable improvements on the present system were effected by it, yet several parties had pressed on him that there might be much more economy if the whole of the regulations were placed under one superintendence and a general fire brigade like that which existed in Paris and other places were established. By this means not only would the system be more efficient, but it would also entail much lighter burdens upon the ratepayers. He was not prepared to affirm that proposition, but thought the suggestion so valuable that he should abandon the Bill for the present year, for the purpose of obtaining information from Paris and other towns on this subject. If this suggestion proved not to be available, he should then reintroduce the Bill.

Mr. Hawes hoped the noble lord would consider not only the means of supplying fire-engines, but also water. His belief was that more destructive fires took place from the want of water than from the want of fire-engines.

The Bill was then withdrawn.

COMPLETION OF STONE-BUILDINGS, LINCOLN'S-INN.

These magnificent chambers, built by Sir Robert Taylor, and entirely faced with Portland stone, being at present deficient of their southern wing, are forthwith to be completed. To such persons as are not acquainted with this well-known pile, we merely intimate, that they are externally of the Corinthian order, and are (some details excepted) by all persons, except those who originate or follow the bad criticism of the day, much to be commended: as seen from the extreme length of Lincoln's-Inn-Fields (over the beautiful terrace now cut up for the erection of the new Hall and other buildings, and the wall of which is celebrated for containing some workmanship from the very hand of "Rare Ben Johnson"), the pearl-like effect of their beautiful stone throws into shade every competing object; their simple, plain continuity, surmounted by the richer, though still plain, entablature of the order, shews how superior an effect plain, blanched, enduring masonry has to frippery, falsely called architecture. A little further on may also be seen the exquisite Portland stone masonry of the upper part of the great gabel of Lincoln's-Inn Chapel; which, contrasting with the wretched clay-coloured stucco, with which nearly all the remainder of that building was some years since invested, puts the right-minded in an almost fixed humour to forswear the use of all other materials.

DESTRUCTION OF ANTIQUITIES OF IRELAND.

It is much to be regretted that the society lately established in England, having for its object the preservation of British antiquities, did not extend its design over those of the Sister Island—which are daily becoming fewer and fewer in number. That the gold ornaments which are so frequently found in various parts of Ireland should be melted down for the sake of the very pure gold* of which they are composed, is scarcely surprising; but that carved stones, and even immense druidical remains, should be destroyed, is indeed greatly to be lamented. At one of the late meetings of the Royal Irish Academy, a communication was made of the intention of the proprietor of the estate at New Grange, to destroy that most gigantic relic of druidical times, which has justly been termed the Irish pyramid, merely because its vast size "cumbereth the ground." At Mellifont, a modern corn-mill of large size has been built out of the stones of the beautiful monastic buildings, some of which still adorn that charming spot. At Monasterboice, the church-yard of which contains one of the finest of the round towers, are the ruins of two little ancient stone Irish churches, and three most elaborately carved stone crosses eighteen or twenty feet high. The church-yard itself is overrun with weeds; the sanctity of the place being its only safeguard. At Clonmacnoise, where some forty years ago several hundred inscriptions in the ancient Irish character were to be seen upon the grave-stones, scarcely a dozen (and they the least interesting) are now to be found; the large flat stones, on which they were carved, forming excellent slabs for doorways, the copings of walls, &c.! It was the discovery of some of these carved stones in such a situation, which had the effect of directing the attention of Mr. Petre (then an artist in search of the picturesque, but now one of the most enlightened and conscientious of the Irish antiquaries) to the study of antiquities, and it is upon the careful series of drawings made by him that future antiquaries must rely for very much of ancient architectural detail now destroyed. As to Glendaloch, it is so much a holiday place for the Dubliners, that no wonder every thing portable has disappeared. Two or three of the seven churches are levelled to the ground; all the characteristic carvings described by Ledwich, and which were "*quite unique in Ireland*," are gone—some were removed and used as key-stones for the arches of Derry-bawn-bridge. Part of the church-yard has been cleared of its grave-stones, and forms a famous place where the villagers play at ball against the old walls of the church. The little church called St. Kevin's Kitchen is given up to the sheep, and the font lies in one corner, and is used for the vilest purposes. The abbey church is choked up with trees and brambles, and being a little out of the way, a very few carved stones still remain there, two of the most interesting of which I found used as coping-stones to the wall which surrounds it. The connection between the ancient churches of Ireland and the north of England renders the preservation of the Irish antiquities especially interesting to the English antiquarian, and it is with the hope of drawing attention to the destruction of those ancient Irish monuments that I have written these few lines. The Irish themselves are unfortunately so engrossed with political and religious controversies, that it can scarcely be hoped that single-handed they will be roused to the rescue even of those *evidences of* their former national greatness. Besides, a great obstacle exists against any interference with the religious antiquities of the country, from the strong feelings entertained by the people on the subject, although *practically*, as we have seen, of no little weight. Let us hope that the public attention directed to these objects will have a beneficial result, and insure a greater share of "justice to Ireland"—for will it be believed, that the only establishment in Ireland, for the propagation and diffusion of scientific and antiquarian knowledge—the Royal Irish Academy—receives annually the munificent sum of 300*l.* from the government? And yet, notwithstanding this pittance, the members of that society have made a step in the right direction, by the purchase of the late Dean of St. Patrick's Irish Archæological collection, of which a fine series of drawings is now being made at the expense of the Academy, and of which they would doubtless allow copies to be made, so as to obtain a return of a portion of the expense to which they are now subjected? Small, moreover, as this collection is, it forms a striking contrast with our own *National* Museum, which, rich in foreign antiquities, is almost without a single object of native archæological interest, if we except the series of English and Anglo-Saxon coins, and MSS. Surely the progressive history of the arts of our own country deserves a place in the British Museum, and yet this has not hitherto been afforded to it: in this respect, even the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford must take precedence; whilst in Ethnographical collections, the little museum of the British Institution may be cited as an example fit to be followed; for strange indeed does it seem that, with the exception of the few specimens brought home by Capt. Cook from the South Sea Islands, the national museum of our country, whose intercourse with every quarter of the globe is so immense, is destitute of specimens of the manufactures, carvings, paintings, &c. of the inhabitants of almost every part of the world. The Chinese Collection, at Hyde Park Corner, and Mr. Catlin's collection, ought not to be allowed to be broken up. These would form a fitting nucleus for an Ethnographical addition to the British Museum.—*Athenæum.*

* One recently discovered, and now in the possession of the Rev. Dr. Todd, is equal in weight to not fewer than two sovereigns.

Singular Discovery.—A discovery of extreme interest has been made within the last ten days, in a fen about five miles from Cambridge. A man employed in digging turf, about five feet from the surface found, embedded in the soil, an ancient armlet or bracelet, of the finest gold, weighing upwards of 5 oz. It consists of five spirals, 3 inches in diameter, and of beautiful workmanship, exhibiting an interesting specimen of the art of the ancient Britons, which it is presumed to be.

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